

RHODIA, INC.
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Rhodia, Inc.'s Spartanburg, South Carolina facility manufactures a variety of chemicals for consumer products and was the first chemical manufacturing site to be admitted into the South Carolina Environmental Excellence Program. The facility achieved significant wastewater reductions and eliminated an entire waste stream from reaching the landfill. The Rhodia Spartanburg facility participates in several local programs. In 1999, it was awarded the Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention and was selected as Facility of the Year by *Environmental Protection* magazine.

AT A GLANCE

Industry Sector:	Chemical Manufacturing
Business:	Manufactures chemicals such as surfactants, nonionic ethoxylates, propoxylates, and block polymers
Facility Employees:	Between 50 and 99
Accomplishments:	Reduced hazardous waste Reduced BOD discharges to water
2003 Commitments:	Reduce COD discharges to water Reduce BOD discharges to water Reduce solid waste
Address:	399 Sims Chapel Road Spartanburg, SC 29306
Web site:	www.rhodia.com

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Past Accomplishments

The Rhodia, Inc. Spartanburg facility demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the area of waste reduction to the landfill and to the local sewer systems. Between 1998 and 2000, the facility has:

- **Reduced hazardous waste** by eliminating shipments of filter cake to landfill. This was accomplished through improved process management, data collection, and through not using mechanical methods to extract excess solids from the system.
- **Reduced biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) discharges** to the local sewer system by optimizing its wastewater pretreatment system.

Future Commitments

The Spartanburg facility also committed to continued environmental improvement through maintaining its zero shipment status of filter cakes and making further reductions in solid waste. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce discharges of chemical oxygen demand (COD)** by 25% through improving pretreatment plant operations and through implementing sewer and sump mechanical upgrades.
- **Continue to reduce discharges of BOD** to wastewater through maintaining and improving biomass performance.
- **Reduce solid waste** by maintaining zero shipments of filter cakes and monitor and decrease other solid wastes that are shipped to landfills.

- **Reduce solid waste** through more effective recycling programs and through installing new bulk storage tanks, which will eliminate several thousand empty steel drums that are sent to the landfill annually.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Rhodia, Inc. Spartanburg facility conducts open house events to inform the public of important environmental matters that affect the community. It also plays a leadership role in the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). LEPCs are tasked with developing an emergency plan to prepare for and respond to chemical emergencies and makes information available to the public upon request. The Spartanburg facility also participates in a community renewal project called the Re-Genesis Project. In addition, several facility employees are members of the local community.